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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 556
By White

A RESOLUTION to honor Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, as the
"Birthplace of Southern Gospel Music".

WHEREAS, the members of this general assembly are proud to recognize those Tennessee communities that have played significant roles in the development of this state's rich history and started traditions; and

WHEREAS, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, is one such community, due in large part to it being the home of many of the first major southern gospel music songwriters, including such songwriters as James D. Vaughan, Adger Pace, James Rowe, G.T. Speer, and William Walbert; and

WHEREAS, it is the home of the first professional southern gospel music quartet, which was founded by Mr. Vaughan in 1910; and

WHEREAS, Lawrenceburg is the home of the first southern gospel music radio station, WOAN, which was founded in 1922; and

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WHEREAS, the city is also the home of the Vaughan School of Music, which helped train the first generation of southern gospel music artists and songwriters, including V.O. Stamps, Frank Stamps, the LeFevers, and the Speers; and

WHEREAS, Lawrenceburg is the home of the *Vaughan Family Visitor*, the first influential southern gospel music newspaper, which was published from 1914-64; and

WHEREAS, it is the home of the James D. Vaughan Music Company, which has published millions of shape-note southern gospel music songbooks from the date of its founding in 1902 until 1964; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Gospel Music Association has recognized Lawrenceburg as the official birthplace of southern gospel music; and

WHEREAS, it is important that we also recognize this fair city for its role in the development of southern gospel music; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, as the "Birthplace of Southern Gospel Music".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.